

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/724,734

Examiner

Samson B. Lemma

Applicant(s)

TRIMBERGER ET AL.

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed on 02/21/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19 and 21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The request filed on February 21, 2006 for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 based on patent application 09/724,734 is acceptable and an RCE has been established. Claim 20 is cancelled. And a new dependent claim 21 is added. Accordingly, **claims 1-19 and 21** is pending/examined.
2. **Independent claim 9** was amended previously and was allowed together with its dependent claims 10-13 in the pervious office action.
3. **Independent Claims 1 and 18** is amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. **Claims 1-19 and 21** are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
 - Referring to the independent claims 1 the art on the record, in particular **the combination of Trimberger and Erickson discloses each and every limitations of the claim before the claim is amended.** However, the art on the record does not disclose or suggest the amended limitation. As applicant persuasively argued, the amended limitation recites the patentably distinct features of the present invention. Features of unencrypted control words that indicate whether a plurality of data words specifying the design is a plurality of encrypted words for specifying an encrypted design.

None of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination teaches such claim containing a particular/specific functional limitation recited above in combination with the limitation included in the respective claim.

Accordingly, the submitted amended independent claim 1 is patentably distinct over the art on the record, namely the combination of Trimberger and Erickson.

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Therefore, for the reason provided above, the amended independent claim 1 is found to be novel and allowed.

- Referring to the independent claims 9, the claim was previously allowed.

The combination of Trimberger and Erickson discloses each and every limitations of the first claim before it was amended. However, applicant filed, amendment after non-final rejection on 08/10/2005 and amended claim 9. The art on the record does not disclose or suggest the amended limitation. As applicant persuasively argued, the amended limitation recites the following patentably distinct features of the present invention. **Features of a second plurality of words corresponding to the first plurality of words and a third plurality of words for controlling loading of configuration data into a second PLD; a fourth plurality of words corresponding to the third plurality of words and the second and the fourth plurality of words specifying a design is encrypted and the corresponding at least one of the first and third plurality of words is unencrypted.**

None of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination teaches such claim containing a particular/specific functional limitation recited above in combination with the limitation included in the respective claim.

Accordingly, the submitted amended independent claim 9 is patentably distinct over the art on the record, namely the combination of Trimberger and Erickson. Therefore, for the reasons provided above, the amended independent claim 9 was found to be novel and allowed.

- Referring to the independent claims 18 the art on the record, in particular the combination of Trimberger, Erickson and Yin discloses each

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and every limitations of the claim before the claim is amended. However, the art on the record does not disclose or suggest the amended limitation. As applicant persuasively argued, the amended limitation recites the patentably distinct features of the present invention. Feature of forming a cipher block chaining initial value by replacing portion of a starting number with an address for loading a design into a PLD.

None of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination teaches such claim containing a particular/specific functional limitation recited above in combination with the limitation included in the respective claim.

Accordingly, the submitted amended independent claim 18 is patentably distinct over the art on the record, namely the combination of Trimberger Erickson and Yin. Therefore, for the reason provided above, the amended independent claim 18 is found to be novel and allowed.

6. The dependent claims **2-8, 10-17 and 19 and 21**, being further limiting to the independent claims 1, 9 and 18, definite and enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samson B Lemma whose telephone number is 571-272-3806. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 am---4:30 pm).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BARRON JR GILBERTO can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SAMSON LEMMA

S.L.

03/28/2006

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